

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 974

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to welcome the Mustang Club of America to our Capitol City and join in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Ford Mustang.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable organizations that are celebrating significant milestones in their existence; and

WHEREAS, the Mustang Club of America (MCA) is one such worthy group, which is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Ford Mustang this year in Nashville at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and the Nashville Superspeedway from April 15-18; and

WHEREAS, formed by a group of Mustang enthusiasts in Atlanta, Georgia, to preserve and promote classic Mustangs, the MCA now boasts more than 160 regional groups and international affiliates; and

WHEREAS, the MCA has developed judging standards for all models of Mustangs, created standards for reproduction parts to help the restoration process, and founded the Mustang Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with regional groups, the MCA presents four National Shows and one Grand National Show each year throughout the United States; the group also hosted the 30th and 35th Anniversary celebrations of the Mustang in cooperation with Ford Motor Company and other sponsors; and

WHEREAS, the first Mustang was a 1965 model, but it was released early in April 1964; thus, the MCA celebrates its 40th Anniversary in April 2004; and

WHEREAS, the introduction of the Mustang countered the absence of an affordable American sports car and provided the American public with the opportunity to own their dream car; and

WHEREAS, the members of the MCA have capitalized on the opportunity to live out this dream; members own original Mustangs from every era, from the latest model of Mustang to restored classic Mustangs; and

WHEREAS, the MCA also features a philanthropic aspect; in addition to the MCA's charitable donations, its Regional Groups and members have contributed thousands of dollars and labor to charities in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, centered around fun and friendship, the MCA publishes the monthly magazine *Mustang Times* for its members, which includes information on events, classified pages, and feature articles; and

WHEREAS, providing an outlet for camaraderie among Mustang enthusiasts, the Mustang Club of America has helped to keep the Mustang as one of the world's most beloved automobiles; and

WHEREAS, although the size and shape of the Mustang has been modified over the years, Ford Motor Company has endeavored to remain true to the features that continue to make it so popular with the motoring public; and

WHEREAS, upon the milestone of the 40th anniversary of the Mustang, an important icon of American popular culture, it is fitting for the General Assembly to pause to celebrate this historic occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the officers and members, both past and present, of the Mustang Club of America and, knowing that "all roads lead to Music City USA," most heartily welcome them to Nashville for this special 40th Anniversary celebration of the original muscle car, the Ford Mustang. We also extend our best wishes for the continued success of the MCA and the Ford Mustang.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.